

Announcing the 2015 AIR Shortlist

Africa Centre, Blog

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Tags: Africa Centre African Artists AIR Bundanon Trust Contemporary African Art Jiwar Khoj Kuona Trust Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Centre Sacatar

Congratulations to the 2015 Artists In Residency (AIR) finalists!

Since 2011, our AIR programme has provided artists across discipline (visual arts; literary arts; performing arts; music & film) with the opportunity to participate in residency programmes throughout the world. This is a direct response to the challenges many African artists confront related to both getting accepted and funding residency costs.

This year we received a record 423 complete applications across genres from 40 countries across the continent. This marked a giant leap from last year's pool of applications. While the majority of the applications were pulled in from South Africa, Nigeria, Kenya and Zimbabwe, we also welcomed applicants from new locations such as Algeria, Cote d'Ivoire, Liberia, Madagascar, Rwanda and Sudan to name a few. The quality of submissions and the caliber of artists that applied was also exceptional with many applications from the more senior artists.

After a rigorous selection process that invited a panel of seasoned advisors to peruse each application and weigh in their recommendations, the Africa Centre team is proud to present its shortlist of 68 of the continent's most provocative, innovative and socially engaged artists to be considered for 15 residency opportunities available through partnerships with the following residencies: Bundanon Trust (Australia); Fountainhead (USA); Instituto Sacatar (Brazil); JIWAR Creation & Society (Spain); Khoj International Artists' Association (India); Kuona Trust Arts Centre (Kenya); Nafasi Arts Space (Tanzania); & The Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Center (Italy). Curating this list was an exciting journey through the ambitions and aspirations of some of the continent's greatest art practitioners. It has been exciting to see the level of art that is being produced on the continent and the continued commitment of artists to further their

practice and make a significant mark on their communities both locally and internationally.

To the 68 shortlisted artists, congratulations!

Film:

- Francois Verster (South Africa)
- Philippa Ndisi- Herrmann (Kenya)
- Yared Zeleke (Ethiopia)

Literature/Creative Writing:

- Doreen Baingana (Uganda)
- Gabeba Baderoon (South Africa)
- **John Sibi-Okumu (Kenya)**
- Kerry Hammerton (South Africa)
- Lauren Beukes (South Africa)
- Liam Kruger (South Africa)
- Masande Ntshanga (South Africa)
- Nana Oforiatta Ayim (Ghana)
- Sibabalwe Oscar Masinyana (South Africa)
- Sindiwe Magona (South Africa)
- Susan Kiguli (Uganda)
- Titilope Sonuga (Nigeria)
- Togara Muzanenhamo (Zimbabwe)
- Tsitsi Dangeremba (Zimbabwe)

Music:

- Atemi Oyungu (Kenya)
- Fathy Adly Salama (Egypt)
- Girma Yifrashewa Gebretsadik (Ethiopia)
- Kato Change (Kenya)

Performing Arts:

- Anthea Moys (South Africa)
- Antonio Bukhar (Uganda)
- Buhlebezwe Siwani (South Africa)

- Nawel Skandrani (Tunisia)
- Siyamukelwa Nkululeko Ngcobo (South Africa)
- Yuhl Nala Headman (South Africa)

Visual Arts:

- Andrew Esiebo (Nigeria)
- Aza Masongi (DRC)
- Bernard Akoi-Jackson (Ghana)
- Candice Breitz (South Africa)
- Chibuike Uzoma (Nigeria)
- Collin Sekajugo (Uganda)
- Elize Vossgatter (South Africa)
- Euridice Getúlio Kala (Mozambique)
- Francois Knoetze (South Africa)
- George Atta Kwami (Ghana)
- Georgia Papageorge (South Africa)
- Helen Sebidi (South Africa)
- Houda Ghorbel (Tunisia)
- Ibrahim Mohammed Mahama (Ghana)
- Jacqueline Karuti (Kenya)
- Jeremy Sean Waffer (South Africa)
- Jodi Leigh Beiber (South Africa)
- Joel Mpah-Doo (Cameroon)
- Leslie Lumeh (Liberia)
- Lionel Davis (South Africa)
- Liza Grobler (South Africa)
- Marcia Kure (Nigeria)
- Maya Ben Chikh El Fegoun (Algeria)
- Meskerem Assegued Bantiwalu (Ethiopia)
- Mina Nasr Tadros (Egypt)
- Moataz Nasreldin Attia (Egypt)
- Modisa Motsomi (Botswana)
- Nicene Kossentini (Tunisia)
- Olu Amoda (Nigeria)
- Richard Mudariki (South Africa)
- Rowan Smith (South Africa)
- Sarah Peace (Nigeria)

- Taiye Stephanie Idahor (Nigeria)
- Tamrat Gezahagne (Ethiopia)
- Thakorbhai Kishorbhai Patel (Zimbabwe)
- Victor Ehighale Ehikhamenor (Nigeria)
- Vincent Bezuidenhout (South Africa)
- Wallen Mapondera (Zimbabwe)
- Wanja Kimani (Kenya)
- Yasser Booley (South Africa)
- Zayd Minty (South Africa)

The final AIR award laureates will be announced in early 2016.

Artists in Residency (AIR) Programme is a project of the Africa Centre.